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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

801-809 G St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

VOL. 3. NO. 2 WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1913. WHOLE NO. 106

THE INVINCIBLE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR REACHES AND OVERLAPS THE SECOND MILLION

NOTABLE achievements are the result of well directed and persistent effort. The American Federation of Labor is the creation of the wage earners. Its victories of the past are legion. The proof of its efficacy as an aggressive and militant instrument to oppose economic injustice is in its growth. Virile, undaunted and vigorous, the influence of the great Federation continues to draw the unorganized into the unions of labor. A great epoch in its history has occurred. The membership of its affiliated unions, for the first time, has reached and overlapped the 2,000,000 mark. For the month of March, 1913, the American Federation of Labor received per capita tax from its affiliated organizations based upon an aggregate membership of **2,007,650**

FEBRUARY IMMIGRATION.

Washington, April 12.—The Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, Department of Labor, has issued its February immigration Bulletin. There were landed on our shores during February, 59,156 alien immigrants. For December, 1912, and January, 1913, for the first time in months, the Southern Italians failed to lead the list in point of numbers, but during the month under consideration they again take the lead, with 11,872. The next largest numbers were Polish, 9,180; Hebrew, 6,577; German, 3,580; Russian, 3,714; English, 2,586; Northern Italians, 2,043; Croatians and Slavonians, 1,718; Scandinavians, 1,529, the balance being scattered between thirty different nationalities. Of the total number coming in, 15,236 were classified as farm laborers, while 9,748 were designated as laborers and 6,696 as servants. The largest number given for any one particular trade was tailors, 1,104. The distribution of these immigrants, in part, was as follows: New York, 16,413; Pennsylvania, 8,487; Illinois, 5,574; Massachusetts, 4,711; New Jersey, 3,275; Ohio, 2,925; Michigan, 2,869, the balance being distributed throughout the various states in the Union. The number debarred during the month was 1,033. Emigrant aliens departing during February reached 15,257, leaving a net increase for the month of immigrant aliens of 43,903.

CHICAGO ARBITRATION AWARD.

Chicago, April 12.—The award made by the arbitration board in the dispute involving the employes of the surface street railway lines gives an increase of 2 cents an hour and reduces the hours. The former scale was: First six months, 25 cents per hour; second six months, 26 cents; second year, 26 cents; third year, 27 cents; fourth year, 28 cents; fifth year, 29 cents, and after five years, 30 cents. The award of the arbitration board established the following scale: First three months, 27 cents; second three months, 28 cents; third six months, 28 cents; fourth six months, 29 cents; fifth year, 29 cents; sixth year, 30 cents; fifth year, 31 cents; after five years, 32 cents. The award is retroactive to June 1, 1913, and back pay on the above award is to be computed from August 1, 1912. All runs are to be made as nearly as possible within ten hours, but there shall be no schedule run of less than nine hours. All motormen are to be accredited with each day for instructing students. The wage increase will not an additional annual expenditure of $800,000 in wages. Judge Scanlan, representing the railroad employes, dissented from the findings of the board. The action of the "17" employes is still unsettled and is also in the hands of the arbitrators.

DISCRIMINATION CHARGED.

Holyoke, Mass., April 12.—There is much unrest among the papermakers. Recently a member of the Paperhangers Union was discharged from one of the mills of the trust, and closely following came the discharge of another member in another mill. Both of these men are practical men of experience, and have been in the employ of the combine for many years. It is believed that the companies are looking to the destruction of the unions, and apparently hope that dissatisfaction will result from the discrimination of the men. There is much unrest among the employes in the various departments, and while the paper manufacturers would mean the practical closing down of the combine's plants. Efforts are being made, however, to secure an adjustment of the present difficulty without resort to drastic measures.

ADOPTS MINIMUM WAGE.

Everett, Wash., April 12.—The leading department store in this city has established a minimum wage to become effective immediately. About fifteen girls are given employment and practically all will come under the minimum wage plan. The company has decided to place the minimum wage at $8 per week. This scale does not include apprentices, but has to do with employes who have had some experience in the business. Apprentices will not be paid more than $6 per week during the period of their schooling in salesmanship. Hereafter wages paid will be $6, $7 and $8 per week, and from $8 to $25 per week for experienced sales people.

IRON TRADES WIN.

Oakland, Cal., April 12.—The strike of all iron trades workers against the United Iron Workers was of short duration and resulted in a complete victory for the strikers. Five crafts came out to assist the striking casting chippers to enforce the union scale of $5 a day, which the company was failing to pay, according to its agreement with the union. Finally the company promised to live up to its agreement with the aggrieved chippers and the men all returned to work.

INCREASE TEACHERS' SALARIES.

Sioux City, Iowa, April 12.—The salaries of the school-teachers in this city have been increased by the Board of Education. The increase will demand an additional $8,000 in the teachers' pay budget for the year. Under the increase the salaries of teachers will be raised $25 yearly. In a former schedule a $25 increase was provided for every two years.

WELSH MINERS TO QUIT.

Cardiff, Wales, April 12.—More than 95,000 miners in South Wales have handed in a month's notice to their employment, as a protest against the engagement in the mines of nonunion miners.

TRADE UNIONS SUSTAINED.

Washington, April 12.—A case involving the rights of trade unionists to refuse to work with a non-member has just been decided by the courts in London. The controversy arose when the workmen in a cigar factory demanded that a certain employe join the union, and upon the refusal of the employe to comply the employer was informed that a strike would follow if the employe was longer employed. The employer stated the circumstances to the recalcitrant employe, who, again refusing to join the union, was discharged. A suit for damages and an injunction to restrain the members of the union from demanding the employer to refuse employment to the plaintiff was instituted. The case was tried and the decision rendered sustained the position taken by the union men that they had a legal right to refuse to work with a non-member and urge discharge.

WINNIPEG NEWS

Winnipeg, April 12.—There is a controversy on between the Painters' Union and the Master Painters over a raise in the wage scale. Efforts were made to secure an amicable adjustment in order that an open rupture might be averted. A. F. of L. new schedule of wages has also been submitted to the master tailors by the members of the Journeymen Tailors' Union. It is three years since the members of this organization secured an increase, and it is deemed high time that some increase was granted, although there are rumors to the effect that a contest will ensue, but information from other sources is to the effect that the tailors will secure a raise without resort to strike. The agreement with the street railway men expires on May 1, and the members of this organization are discussing the advisability of demanding a higher rate of pay. The men employed on the waterworks also believe that 25 cents an hour is too low a wage, and they are asking a raise to 27 1-2 cents. The members of the board of control are agreeable, and believe that the men should have the increase asked for. The strike of the 400 linemen employed by the British Columbia Telephone Company has been brought to a close with entire satisfaction to the linemen. Double time on Sunday labor and a better regulation for apprentices were the principal matters in dispute, and the company acceded to the demands of the organization.

UNION FORCES HIGHER PAY.

Erie, Pa., April 12.—The Rubber Workers' Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, is growing rapidly. The Continental Rubber Company has demanded, through its business manager, that the men employed by that firm shall not stay outside the union. Some of the men have been discharged for attending the meetings of the Rubber Workers. This has resulted in forty men leaving the employ of the company during the recent Council of Reading took favorable action to assist in the movement. International unions have been communicated with, and applications have been directed to the section covered for the purpose of assisting in the movement.

SECURE INCREASED WAGES.

San Jose, Cal., April 12.—Members of the United Laborers' Union in the employ of the Ransome-Crummy Street Paving Company have secured an increase in wages of 25 cents per day and the hours reduced from nine to eight. This is but one instance where the United Laborers have secured an increase in pay, and demonstrates the power of organization in the ranks of the unskilled as well as the skilled workers.

AWARDED DAMAGES.

San Francisco, April 12.—William Van Horn, millwright, employed by the San Francisco Mill Furnishing Company, was injured on the premises of the Pacific Refining and Roofing Company, by the blowing off of a cap attached to a steam pipe. Van Horn's face was severely burned and his left eye permanently injured. Suit was brought through attorneys against the company and after trial a verdict in the sum of $1,125 was returned by the jury in favor of Van Horn.

OBSERVE SAFETY DAY.

New York, April 12.—The first annual safety day was observed by 850,000 pupils of the various schools of the city on April 4. The American Museum of Safety, which is conducting a campaign against the loss of accidents, decided to set apart the day, and the educational authorities gave co-operation by directing the teachers to read a safety lecture in all school rooms at 2 o'clock. Reduction in the annual loss of fatalities and injuries is the purpose of the campaign.

WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE

St. Louis, April 12.—The president of the National Women's Trade Union League, Raymond Robbins, has just sent out the call for the 1913 convention, which will be held in this city beginning May 5. This will be the third biennial convention of the League and the tenth anniversary of the organization.

EXPRESSMEN STRIKE.

Pittsburg, April 12.—About 300 members of the Brotherhood of Railway Expressmen employed on the Adams Express cars, with a radius of 125 miles of this city, are on strike for an increase in wages and better working conditions.

THE OLD, OLD STORY.

Kingston, Canada, April 12.—The Kingston branch of the Journeymen Stone Cutters of North America was organized in 1900, and since that time the wage scale has been advanced from $2 per day of ten hours to $4 per day of eight hours, without resort to strike. The Stone Cutters' Union was two years ahead of the other trades unions in securing the eight-hour day. The achievements of this union are indisputable evidence of the efficacy of the collective action of workmen. While this is but one instance of the unions of labor making great gains for their membership, yet it is the old, old story.

FIREMEN HEARINGS CLOSED.

New York, April 12.—The introduction of testimony before the arbitration committee on the demands of the firemen for increased pay was concluded on April 5. At the conclusion of an argument by a representative of the railroads, President Carter, of the firemen, responded to the reference made to the losses suffered by the roads during the recent floods. President Carter asserted that individual firemen had suffered heavily, too, hundreds having had their small properties destroyed. "But we are not trying to trade on your misfortune to secure an increase in wages. The railroads should have taken some of the profits of their firemen and share their money with their less fortunate brothers." Briefs are to be submitted by both sides at once. April 23 is the latest date upon which the award can be made under the agreement, and it is quite possible that an earlier decision will be reached.

CENT POSTAGE PREDICTED.

Washington, April 12.—The recent action of the Postmaster General in instituting an inquiry as to the "actual financial, physical, and working conditions of the postal service" is regarded in labor quarters as the initial step toward the reduction of postal rates on first-class mail, or the introduction of 1-cent letter postage. Authorities on postal matters assert that the Postoffice Department is piling up an enormous surplus on letter mail each year, estimated at approximately $65,000,000. It is further said that, although they believe that the men should have the increase asked for. The strike of the 400 linemen employed by the British Columbia Telephone Company has been brought to a close with entire satisfaction to the linemen. Double time on Sunday labor and a better regulation for apprentices were the principal matters in dispute, and the company acceded to the demands of the organization.

TO HAVE FORWARD MOVEMENT.

Lancaster, Pa., April 12.—The contemplated labor forward movement in Eastern Pennsylvania is meeting with much encouragement. The Pennsylvania State Labor Union has enlisted in the cause, and is in communication with the organizers appointed by the Executive Board of the Federation. The meetings of the executive committee in the Postoffice Department, and the findings of the commission will be eagerly awaited.

NOW VOTE FOR SENATORS.

Washington, April 12.—By the favorable action of the Connecticut Legislature the amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing for the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people has been adopted. Connecticut was the thirty-sixth State to approve the amendment, this number being sufficient to amend the Constitution. Only one State, so far, has acted adversely on the amendment, Delaware was that conspicuous State.

UNION MEN ELECTED.

Springfield, Ill., April 12.—The result of the election recently held here resulted in the election of several trade unionists. H. E. Woodmansee, editor of the Illinois Tradesman, was reelected a member of the board of education by a very large vote. William Booth, of the Bricklayers' Union; Gus Fehr, of the Cigarmakers' Union, and William Kessberger, of the Retail Clerks' Union, were elected members of the board of supervisors.

ELECT SWITCHMAN MAYOR

Ottumwa, Iowa., April 12.—This city has just elected a union switchman as mayor. Patrick Lonney, a switchman in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Islands and St. Paul Road, was the successful candidate. This city has a population of 40,000.

GARMENT WORKERS JUBILANT.

Toronto, April 12.—The Garment Workers in this city are elated. Out of twenty-seven establishments all but three have signed up. In these three shops a satisfactory settlement was reached without friction, only six firms opposing the demands of the union, whereupon a strike was called in these shops. Three of these have now signed up and negotiations are under way with the others and prospects of a settlement are bright. The rate of wages paid in the large majority of these shops was as low as $12 and $15 per week, while the new agreement provides a minimum of $15 per for journeymen cutters on stock and $20 on special ordered clothing. Time and a half will be paid for overtime and 25 per cent division of work in slack season. The United Garment Workers were never so effectively organized in this city as they are today.

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE.

Toronto, April 12.—A large number of delegates attended the provincial conference of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, which recently concluded its sessions at the Labor Temple. The provincial conference decided to submit to a vote of the unions in Ontario the question of organizing a state council, similar to the councils in the different states of the United States. This will be a decided step forward for the Brotherhood in Ontario if a state council is authorized.

BUFFALO CAR STRIKE.

Buffalo, N. Y., April 12.—Approximately 1,700 street car employes are on strike, and the service is practically tied up. The trolleymen demand 22 cents per hour, time and a half for all overtime, and the right to present grievances to the company. The public is thoroughly in sympathy with the strikers. The usual injunction has been issued.

R. R. TELEGRAPHERS.

St. Louis, April 12.—During the month of March the Order of Railroad Telegraphers secured revised contracts, with improved rules and increased wages, on the International and Great Northern, Long Island, the Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific, the Alabama Great Southern, Great Kingston and Pembroke, the Central New England, and the Maine Central.

PAINTERS GET INCREASE.

St. Paul, April 12.—About one-half of the employing painters in this city have already signed the new wage scale of the Painters' Union, which is to go into effect on April 15. The new scale provides for an increase of 5 cents an hour, making the pay to 60 cents an hour, instead of 45 cents, which has been the scale for three years.

MOTHERS' PENSION LAW.

Olympia, Wash., April 12.—The Governor has signed the mothers' pension bill, which provides a compensation for destitute mothers of children with which to care, or with one child up to five $10 per month and $5 for each additional one.

CARPENTERS STRIKE.

Newport, R. I., April 12.—The carpenters and cabinetmakers here have struck for an increase of their daily wage up to $3.60 per day. The old scale was $3.25, and the carpenters refused a compromise offer of $3.60.

ADOPT COMMISSION FORM.

Raleigh, N. C., April 12.—The commission form of government has been elected by the people of this city by a majority of 600.

MUNICIPALLY OWNED ROAD

San Francisco, April 12.—The municipal railway is showing increased profits. In February it showed a clear gain of $1,154.35 over January. The record for the time the road has been in operation up to March 1 shows total receipts of $23,235.85, with operating expenses of $21,435.11, leaving a balance of $17,956.74. Deducting from this latter figure the interest charges and redemption payments on the part of the road now in operation, there remains a net profit of about $9,000 over all charges and expenses. This is surely a good showing for the new enterprise.

SMELTER MEN STRIKE.

Denver, April 12.—Six hundred employes of the Globe Smelter have struck because a 25 cent wage increase was denied them. These employes are members of the Western Federation of Miners and the situation is in charge of President Moyer. The strike followed the attempt to work some of the men from ten to fourteen hours without additional pay. "Inhuman conditions prevail," stated President Moyer. "The men realize that they have been discriminated against and they feel the need of organization. Similar trouble smelter operators have a wage of $2. The Globe minimum wage is $1.75. The voluntary agreement of other state smelters to the eight hour shift has increased the unrest." The smelter is entirely closed down and the men insist that they will not return until they obtain $2 per day for unskilled labor and an increase from $2.25 to $2.50 a day for inside work.

RECENT RAILROAD WRECKS.

Washington, April 12.—Two persons dead and four injured was the result of a collision reported from a Western Maryland passenger train and a freight train at Bidwell, Pa. More than a score of passengers on the New York Central's New York Special, bound from Buffalo to New York, had narrow escapes from drowning in the Mohawk river near Palatine Bridge when the train left the tracks at Yosts, N. Y., and crashed down an embankment into the Mohawk River. Fifteen persons were passengers suffered serious injuries. A fireman was killed and two other train employes on a Texas and Pacific passenger train were seriously injured when part of the train was overturned by a landslide near Provencal, La. A fireman was killed and twenty passengers badly injured, five of whom may die, when a Baltimore and Ohio passenger train crashed through an open switch at Hopkinsville, Toledo, Ohio. The train also crashed into the station, killing the agent.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD.

Washington, April 12.—The United Brotherhood of Carpenters is still harmonizing away. During the month of March seventeen local unions were chartered as follows: Laurel, Miss.; Conway, Ark.; La Crosse, Wis.; Wilmington, N. C.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Bonham, Tex.; Southington, Conn.; Rockdale, Tex.; Crosby, Minn.; South Jacksonville, Fla.; Conway, S. C.; Denver, Colo.; Savannah, Ga., Watseka, Ill.; Kenedy, Tex.; Philadelphia, Pa., and Portland, Oreg.

IMMENSE POSTAL BUSINESS.

Washington, April 12.—More than 1500,000,000 local post packages were mailed during the first three months after the inauguration of the new system. Figures have been announced by the postal authorities. The business of the parcel post is increasing with tremendous rapidity and requires the utmost activity on the part of the postal department to keep pace with the increasing volume of business.

WOMEN AND CHILD LABOR.

Washington, April 12.—The Southern Conference on women and child labor will convene in Meridian, Miss., on Monday, April 28. Since this movement began there has been a gradual awakening of the public conscience to the necessity of active, earnest effort to improve the condition of the conditions surrounding working women and children. The Southern Conference is urging those who are interested to give assistance.

DEMAND WAGE INCREASE.

New York, April 12.—The cigarmakers employed by the Anton Bock Cigar Company, in the number of 250, are on strike. They are contending for a 20 per cent increase in wages. It is stated that the conditions in the shops are particularly bad and wages extremely low. One expert workman, under favorable conditions, cannot make more than $8 to $9 per week.

CUTTERS GET INCREASE.

Hamilton, Ontario, April 12.—The cutting-up tailors employed in the various houses in this city have secured an increase of $1 per week. The increase was granted without a demand. It came as a result of a similar demand made in Toronto. The employers in this city foresaw that an increase would be demanded, and discounted the action.

DEFEAT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Hartford, Conn., April 12.—Woman suffrage in Connecticut was defeated in the lower branch of the Legislature by a large vote. The suffrage leaders throughout the State are disappointed, as they had waged a fine campaign to secure the enactment of this measure.

BREWERY WORKERS GET RAISE

Erie, Pa., April 12.—The Brewery Workers and Bottlers' Union of this city have just secured a raise in wages. From $12 a week for 54 hours' work, the aggregate total for which is now $13.50 per week, the men will receive $14 for the same number of hours.

SULZER A FIGHTER.

Albany, N. Y., April 12.—"You put the dollar before the man. I put the man before the dollar," declared Gov. Sulzer, in answer to the published statement of President Truesdale, of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, that the disastrous wreck at Corning last July was not attributable to too few men in the train crew. "You tell me the full crew bill will cost your company some additional dollars, but when the public recalls that your stock is paying 5% per cent your outraged feelings will not excite widespread sympathy." To Truesdale's charge that the engineer in the Corning wreck escaped punishment because of some political bargain, Gov. Sulzer replied by ordering District Attorney Smith, of Steuben County, to investigate at once, and call upon Truesdale for information.

"THE LAND WITHOUT STRIKES."

Washington, D. C., April 12.—The following item was published by the Washington Star from its correspondent in Sidney, Australia: "The eight wages board system is in the melting pot, compulsory arbitration having been rendered nugatory by series of strikes, which has commenced despite the agreements and awards of the wages boards and the penal clauses of the arbitration act. During the gas strike Sidney was in darkness for several days. All coal miners in the southern district, under the leadership of the notorious Peter Dowling, who was prominent in the disastrous 1908 stoppage, are on strike, and there is prospect of a prolonged struggle. The Victorian railways are tied up, the shore with the city have stopped, and thousands of workers in the densely populated suburbs are deprived of the means of communication to their work. The cause of the strike is the delay of the wages boards in dealing with their claims. The labor government's enforcement of the provisions act prohibiting strike under penalty of fines and imprisonment is awaited with interest. Labor opinion favors amendment of the law on the lines of the Canadian act."

NIAGARA FALLS NEWS

Niagara Falls, N. Y., April 12.—The Builders' Association of this city has signed a new agreement with the Carpenters' Union for an advanced scale of wages and shorter hours, to become effective June, July and August. The same association has also signed an agreement with the Bricklayers and Stone Masons' Union for increased pay and the Saturday half-holiday. The demand of the unions was met in every particular except for a compromise on half-holidays for three months instead of four months, as at first demanded. The efforts of the master and journeymen plasterers and paperhangers to come to an agreement over wages failed. A strike is impending. The Painters claim that efforts have been made to arbitrate the wage question, but that the master painters have refused to arbitrate. The painters seek an increase from 42 1-2 cents to 47 1-2 cents an hour for the first year, and 50 cents an hour for the second year, with a two-year agreement.

TRAIMEN AND CONDUCTORS.

New York, April 12.—The demands of the 100,000 trainmen and conductors on the fifty-four Eastern roads, will not be arbitrated, so it is stated. Chairman Knapp, of the Arbitration Conference Committee, of the railroads says: "The first meeting with the general adjustment committee of the trainmen and conductors over their demands will be held in this city April 20. The number of men affected in question 70,000 are trainmen, and 30,000 conductors. It is given out that a settlement with these two organizations will be reached without a recourse to arbitration.

ARKANSAS LABOR MEASURES.

Little Rock, Ark., April 12.—The Legislature, which has now adjourned, enacted a law providing for a labor commissioner. A law was also passed providing that seats be furnished female employes in shops, stores, and factories. The employers' liability bill was amended so as to apply to all classes of hazardous employment, and another measure provides for full switch entire crews.

CARPENTERS WANT 8 HOURS.

Grand Rapids, Mich., April 12.—The Carpenters' Union has made a demand on the contractors of the city for an eight-hour day, a minimum wage of 45 cents per hour, beginning May 1 next. After conferences with the Builders' and Contractors' Association, the Carpenters' Union has been ignored. Numerous individual contracts have been signed, and are ready given their approval to the demands.

BLOCK SYSTEM ON INCREASE.

Washington, April 12.—Of the 256,000 miles of railroad in the United States, figures compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission show that on December 31, 1912, there were 83,549 miles operated under the block system. Of this total, 1,323 miles were equipped with automatic signals, and 82,226 miles were manual. This is an increase over the preceding year of 7,569 miles.

CHICAGO PAINTERS' STRIKE.

Chicago, April 12.—Over 5,000 Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators are on strike. Three hundred contractors who signed the union agreement are not affected and 4,000 men are at work. The strikers demand a 5 cents an hour increase, making the scale $6 per day. Negotiations are pending. The Painters' Union calling for 45 cents per hour for eight hours' work, and $6 per day for the second year.

THE WAY TO FIGHT.

Erie, Pa., April 12.—Those who are watching the iron molders' contest in this city are to be commended for the manner in which the fight is being conducted. Some time ago an injunction was issued, with the usual restrictive provisions. Thirteen of the iron molders were arrested for violations of the injunction. Instead of paying the fines of $25 each, the iron molders are going to the jail sentence, and were accompanied by a large escort of union molders on their way to jail. The men who went to jail will be paid $10.50 a week, and a committee from the union will see that their families, or those dependent upon them, are taken care of. This is a strategic position to take, and as this injunction prohibits the strikers from doing those things which the constitutions of the State and the United States gives them the lawful right to do, it will not be a bad idea to let the county become the official boarding-house. One thousand iron molders now on strike. Wherever the union men begin to use tactics like those employed in this case, judges of the jail will think twice before filling the jails with men who have not committed crimes, but simply exercised their rights as American citizens.

AKRON RUBBER WORKERS.

Washington, April 12.—The following item appeared in the last issue of the Akron, Ohio, Beacon-Journal, a leading paper of that city: "The rubber workers who have been organized under a charter from the A. F. of L. are making splendid progress with their union. Members are coming in constantly, and the work of organization will be continued until every rubber worker in the city is a member. The great success of the organization that has been started by the A. F. of L. was originally intended to include Akron workers, and since then the Federation will stay in the field indefinitely. It is now proposed to place a business agent in the field from the local rubber workers' union. The business agent will be one of the local men who is thoroughly acquainted with the rubber industry, as well as with the workers. The strike, on account of its effect being severely felt by the employers, was declared a great calamity, but we venture the assertion that many workingmen have permitted organization in their plants years ago, as the most productive and conducive to their welfare, but there are those who are organized and who know that every straw bost fin the factory does not hold the whirlpool of a job over their heads."

UNIONIZE LUMBER YARD.

Oakland, Cal., April 12.—The longshoremen have been successful in securing the organization of the men employed by one of the large lumber companies in this city. Members of the longshoremen's union are much elated over this recent acquisition. Several attempts have been made heretofore by the longshoremen at this place before, but all efforts heretofore have been unsuccessful. The mill men and teamsters of the plant have long been union, the longshoremen only finally coming in. This latest addition makes the lumber company thoroughly union, all the men in its employ being members of the various craft organizations.

BOSTON TELEPHONE OPERATORS.

Boston, April 12.—There is much unrest among the telephone operators of this city and vicinity. The Telephone Operators' Union is demanding an eight-hour day, the abolition of the "split trick" system, and a readjustment of wages. A strike vote has been taken, and if a settlement finally comes an application is to be started for State ownership of telephone companies.

RAILWAY CARMEN.

Kansas City, Mo., April 12.—The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen has just chartered three new lodges, one at Marceline, Mo., one at Fort Scott, Kans., Sound branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad at Mosier, and another at Pine Bluff, Mo., on the Missouri Pacific.

JERSEY'S FULL-CREW LAW.

Trenton, N. J., April 12.—The Legislature has now in its possession and has signed the full-crew bill, which will become effective May 1. This law was passed some time ago, but the fact that practically every railroad in the State opposed its passage and worked diligently to defeat it.

MAINE TEXTILE CONVENTION.

Lewiston, Me., April 12.—The seventh annual convention of the Maine Textile Workers will be held in Bramwell Hall, Beginning Saturday, May 3. This is to be an important meeting of the Textile Workers, as plans are to be evolved to secure State legislation in the interest of the workers in this industry, as well as to further secure complete organization.

ASSUMES OFFICE.

Des Moines, Iowa, April 12.—Al Brick, for ten years president of the Des Moines Building Trades Council, has installed as State Commissioner of Labor, having been appointed by Governor Clark to that office for the remainder of the term.